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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Application: 09/701,831

Group Art Unit: PCT

Inventor: Boutillier

Examiner: Christine S. Washington

PCT filing date: May 31, 1999

Attorney Docket No.: 2988-661

For: SHOCK VINYLAROMATIC
POLYMER BY
POLYMERIZATION OF A
VINYLAROMATIC MONOMER

New York, NY
December 18, 2001

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED
DEC 31 2001
TC 1700

Sir:

Applicant submits that the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment mailed December 5, 2001 ("Notice"; a copy of which is enclosed herewith) has erroneously issued because the Preliminary Amendment was received by the USPTO on December 1, 2000, and should have been accepted, by the latest, on February 16, 2001, when the last of the 35 U.S.C. §371 requirements was received by the USPTO. Applicant has concurrently submitted the Request for Correction of Notice of Acceptance for the reason.

However, in order to expedite the proceeding of the instant application, Applicant has revised and re-submitted the Preliminary Amendment that was filed December 1, 2000, herewith, in response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment mailed December 5, 2001. Please consider and enter the following amendments and remarks in the above-identified application. Concurrently submitted herewith are: (a) Exhibit A, a marked-up version of the claims showing the amendments made herein, insertions are underlined and deletions are bracketed; and (b) Exhibit B, a copy of the claims that will be pending upon entry the present amendment.